

What is a Rain Garden?



A rain garden is a shallow depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants and grasses. When planting one at your home be sure to place it near a water runoff source like a downspout, driveway, or sump pump to capture the rainwater and stop the water from reaching the sewer system.

Why Plant a Rain Garden?

Do it to help keep fresh rainwater out of our sewer system and do your part to reduce pollution and preserve our water systems.

Rain and melting snow will run off roofs, driveways, and lawns and flows directly to the street, down the storm drain, and right into the Rouge River. This runoff is usually untreated and carries with it oil, salt, fertilizer and other pollutants. A rain garden can capture this runoff and hold thousands of gallons of water that can be used for your garden and prevent pollutants from contaminating our waterways.

Water held by rain gardens infiltrates deep into the ground and can be used by nearby plant and trees.

Rain gardens usually feature attractive native wildflowers that attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects.